THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 224, nays 183, answered "present" 1, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 657] YEAS-224 Abraham Franks (AZ) Napolitano Frelinghuysen Adams Newhouse Aderholt Gabbard Noem Allen Gianforte Norman Arrington Gibbs Nunes Bacon Gonzalez (TX) O'Rourke Banks (IN) Goodlatte Gottheimer Olson Barletta Pascrell Gowdy Barton Perlmutter Granger Grothman Beatty Pingree Bilirakis Polis Bishop (MI) Guthrie Posey Bishop (UT) Hanabusa Ratcliffe Handel Black Rice (SC) Blackburn Harper Robv Blumenauer Harris Roe (TN) Blunt Rochester Hartzler Rogers (KY) Bonamici Heck Rohrabacher Hensarling Brady (TX) Rooney, Thomas Higgins (LA) Brat Brooks (AL) Higgins (NY) Rosen Brooks (IN) Himes Ross Brown (MD) Hollingsworth Rothfus Buchanan Huffman Royce (CA) Bucshon Hultgren Ruppersberger Bustos Jeffries Butterfield Johnson (GA) Russell Johnson (LA) Byrne Scalise Calvert Johnson, E. B. Schiff Carson (IN) Johnson, Sam Schneider Carter (TX) Kaptur Schweikert Cartwright Kelly (MS) Scott (VA) Chabot Kelly (PA) Scott David Kildee Cheney Sensenbrenner Chu, Judy King (IA) Sessions Cicilline King (NY) Shea-Porter Krishnamoorthi Clay Sherman Kuster (NH) Cole Shimkus Collins (NY) Kustoff (TN) Shuster Smith (NE) Labrador Comer Comstock LaMalfa Smith (NJ) Cook Lamborn Smith (TX) Cooper Larsen (WA) Smith (WA) Courtney Latta Speier Lewis (MN) Cramer Stefanik Crawford Lipinski Stivers Culberson Long Loudermilk Suozzi Cummings Takano Curtis Love Taylor Davidson Lowey Thornberry Davis (CA) Lucas Tiberi Davis, Danny Luetkemeyer Titus DeGette Lujan Grisham, Torres DeLauro M. Trott DelBene Luján, Ben Ray Tsongas Maloney, Carolyn B. Demings DeSaulnier Turner DesJarlais Marino Unton Vela Deutch Massie Wagner Diaz-Balart McCarthy McCaul Walden Dingell Walker McClintock Doggett Walorski Walters, Mimi McCollum Donovan Doyle, Michael McEachin Wasserman McHenry Schultz Waters, Maxine Webster (FL) Duncan (SC) McMorris Duncan (TN) Rodgers McNerney Dunn Welch Ellison Meadows Engel Meng Mitchell Wenstrun Williams Eshoo Estes (KS) Moolenaar Wilson (FL) Mooney (WV) Moulton Ferguson Fleischmann Wilson (SC)

Wittman

Womack

Yarmuth

Young (IA)

Mullin

Murphy (FL) Nadler

Fortenberry

Foster Frankel (FL)

Graves (MO) Aguilar Pallone Green, Al Green, Gene Amash Palmer Babin Panetta Barr Hastings Paulsen Herrera Beutler Barragán Pearce Hice, Jody B. Perrv Bera Hill Peters Holding Bergman Peterson Pittenger Riggs Hudson Poe (TX) Bishop (GA) Huizenga Poliquin Hunter Blum Price (NC) Bost. Hurd Raskin Boyle, Brendan Issa Reed Jackson Lee Reichert Brady (PA) Javapal Renacci Jenkins (KS) Buck Rice (NY) Budd Jenkins (WV) Richmond Burgess Johnson (OH) Rogers (AL) Capuano Jones Rokita Carbajal Jordan Joyce (OH) Ros-Lehtinen Cárdenas Roskam Carter (GA) Katko Castor (FL) Keating Rouzer Kelly (IL) Roybal-Allard Castro (TX) Clarke (NY) Khanna Ruiz Rutherford Cleaver Kihuen Clyburn Rvan (OH) Kilmer Coffman Kind Sánchez Cohen Kinzinger Sanford Collins (GA) Knight Sarbanes Conaway LaHood Schakowsky Connolly Lance Schrader Correa Langevin Serrano Larson (CT) Costa Sewell (AL) Costello (PA) Lawrence Sinema Lawson (FL) Crist Sires Crowley Slaughter Levin Cuellar Smith (MO) Davis, Rodney Lewis (GA) Smucker DeFazio Lieu, Ted Soto Delanev LoBiondo Swalwell (CA) Denham Loebsack Tenney DeSantis Lofgren Thompson (CA) Lowenthal Duffy Thompson (MS) Emmer Lynch Thompson (PA) Espaillat MacArthur Tipton Maloney, Sean Esty (CT) Valadao Marchant Evans Vargas Farenthold Marshall Veasev Mast Faso Velázquez Fitzpatrick Matsui Visclosky Flores McGovern Walberg Watson Coleman McKinley Foxx Fudge McSally Weber (TX) Gallagher Meehan Gallego Messer Westerman Garamendi Moore Woodall Yoder Garrett Nolan Gomez Norcross Yoho O'Halleran Young (AK) Gosar Graves (GA) Palazzo Zeldin

ANSWERED "PRESENT"-1

Tonko

NOT VOTING-25

Amodei Graves (LA) Pocan Bridenstine Griffith Quigley Brownley (CA) Grijalva Rooney, Francis Clark (MA) Gutiérrez Scott, Austin Convers Kennedy Simpson Curbelo (FL) Meeks Stewart Dent Neal Walz Gaetz Payne Gohmert

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). There are 2 minutes remaining.

\Box 1351

Mr. KIND changed his vote from "yea" to "nay."

So the Journal was approved.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House Chamber for rollcall votes 655, 656, and 657 on Tuesday, December 5, 2017. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 655

and 656, and I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 657.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, December 5, for personal reasons, I was absent and missed votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall No. 655-"Yea." Rollcall No. 656—"Yea." Rollcall No. 657-"Yea."

MODIFICATION IN APPOINTMENT OF CONFEREES ON H.R. 1, TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection and pursuant to clause 11 of rule I, the Chair removes the gentleman from Oregon (Mr. WALDEN) as a conferee on H.R. 1 and appoints the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) to fill the vacancy.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will notify the Senate of the change in conferees.

ENHANCING VETERAN CARE ACT

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 1266) to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with nonprofit organizations to investigate medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Clerk read the title of the bill. The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 1266

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Enhancing Veteran Care Act''.

SEC. 2. INVESTIGATION OF MEDICAL CENTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.

- (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may contract with a nonprofit organization that accredits health care organizations and programs in the United States to investigate a medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs to assess and report deficiencies of the facilities at such medical center.
 - (b) AUTHORITY OF DIRECTORS.—
- (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to coordination under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall delegate the authority under subsection (a) to contract for an investigation at a medical center of the Department to the Director of the Veterans Integrated Service Network in which the medical center is located or the director of such medical center.
- (2) COORDINATION.—Before entering into a contract under paragraph (1), the Director of a Veterans Integrated Service Network or the director of a medical center, as the case may be, shall notify the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Comptroller General of the United States for purposes of coordinating any investigation conducted pursuant to such contract with any other investigations that may be ongo-
- (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section may be construed-
- (1) to prevent the Office of the Inspector General of the Department of Veterans Affairs from conducting any review, audit,